

DOMINION OF CANADA

REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS

FOR THE

Fiscal Year ending March 31, 1920

PRINTED BY ORDER OF PARLIAMENT



OTTAWA
THOMAS MULVEY
PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY
1920

To His Excellency the Duke of Devonshire K.G., P.C., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., etc., etc.,
Governor General and Commander in Chief of the Dominion of Canada.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

The undersigned has the honour to present to Your Excellency the report of the Commissioner of Patents for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1920.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEORGE E. FOSTER,
Minister of Trade and Commerce.

OTTAWA, September 16, 1920.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS

The Rt. Hon. Sir GEORGE E. FOSTER, P.C., G.C.M.G., M.P.,
Minister of Trade and Commerce.

SIR,—In pursuance of the requirements of the 63rd section of the Patent Act, Chap. 69, R.S.C. 1906, and section 5A of An Act respecting the Patent Act, the Copyright Act, the Trademark and Design Act, and the Timber Marking Act, Chap. 64, 9 & 10, George 5, I have the honour to report as follows upon the proceedings in the fiscal year ending March 31, 1920, under the provisions of these Acts.

PROCEEDINGS UNDER WAR PROVISIONS.

Under the "Orders and Regulations respecting Patents of Invention made under the War Measures Act, 1914," and amendments thereto and under Chap. 26, 10 George 5, the renewal fees on 111 patents were accepted and the patents revived. Extension of time to import and manufacture was granted on 402 and 301 patents respectively, and 5 patents were placed under the compulsory license clause, section 44 of the Patent Act. A large number of applications for patents for which the time limit for filing had expired under section 8 of the Patent Act were also accepted.

GENERAL BUSINESS.

The fiscal year ended March 31, 1920, was the busiest in the history of the administration of the Patent, Copyright, Trademark and Design, and Timber Marking Acts. The cessation of war turned the activities of manufacturers and producers from war to peace production and this was soon reflected in the receipts of the office. The number of applications for patents was greater by 23 per cent than the preceding year and the fees from all patent sources increased over 22 per cent. The number of patents granted was the largest since the establishment of the office and showed a gain of 57 per cent over 1919 and of 20 per cent over the best previous year. Reports by examiners increased 18 per cent and the number of assignments registered against patents exceeded the previous year by 22 per cent. Caveats granted increased 17 per cent, and the number of patents placed under the compulsory license clause, section 44 of the Patent Act, was greater by 10 per cent than in 1919. Notices under section 8 of the Patent Act showed a decrease of 7 per cent.

The increase in registration of copyrights, trademarks, industrial designs and timber marks was particularly heavy. In all cases, with the exception of timber marks, there were large increases and the total registrations exceeded the preceeding year by 50 per cent, and the fees received were greater by the same percentage.

While part of the increased activities in the office arose from the relief given under the emergency legislation, the greater part was due to natural growth. Throughout the history of the office with the exception of the first three years of the World's War there has been a continuous growth in the business before the office.

11 GEORGE V, A, 1921

A statement of the particulars of the transactions of the Patent and Copyright Office is given in Appendix A, and a comparative statement for the last ten years is given in Appendix B.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE.

A statement of receipts and expenditure is given in Appendix C and detailed statements of the fees received from Patents, and from Copyrights, Trademarks, Designs and Timber Marks are given in Appendices D and E, respectively.

The receipts from Patent Fees were \$294,046.28, an increase of \$58,515.25 over the amount for 1919. The receipts from Copyright, Trade Mark, Industrial Design and Timber Mark Fees were \$60,450.69, an increase of \$20,271.87. The total receipts were \$354,496.97 as compared with \$275,709.85 in 1919, an increase of \$78,787.12. The surplus of receipts over expenditure was \$183,909.80.

RESIDENCE OF INVENTORS FOR PATENTS GRANTED IN 1919-1920.

In Appendix F is given the country of residence of inventors for patents granted. Out of the total number of patents issued during the year 71 per cent were applied for by inventors resident in the United States. Over 15 per cent came from Canadian inventors and Great Britain and Ireland contributed 7 per cent. The remaining 7 per cent came from inventors in 29 other countries.

EXCHANGE OF PUBLICATIONS.

The office continues to receive the official reports of patents and trade marks from Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, the United States, Italy, Switzerland and Japan in addition to about forty other periodicals of a scientific nature. Most of these are received in exchange for the Canadian Patent Office Record. The office also receives the abridgments of patents of Great Britain and the printed copies of patents of France and of the current weekly issue of the United States.

STAFF.

The total number of persons in the employment of the office at the end of the year was 89. This includes a number of the staff who had returned during the year from service in H. M.'s forces. Two examiners are on leave of absence without pay.

TREND OF INVENTION.

The subject of transportation was pre-eminent in the field of invention. There were more applications relating to the many branches of this subject than in the previous year. The number of applications in connection with motor vehicles was the largest of any single class of invention and the class of internal combustion engines was second. Signals for indicating to a following vehicle an intention to turn or stop and devices for locking a vehicle to prevent unauthorized use were noteworthy features. There was a slight decrease in the number of aeronautical applications. Of those filed there was an increased number for parachutes and safety appliances.

Applications for inventions connected with military and naval subjects showed a marked falling off. The classes of ordnance, fire-arms and projectiles as well as ship construction and anti-submarine devices have greatly decreased.

Toys and games are responsible for an increased number of applications. Dolls and dolls' heads, previously largely made abroad, are worthy of mention in this connection.

The electrical industry as a whole is prominent, although few outstanding features call for comment. There has been continued progress in telephony especially auto-

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 10f

matic and semi-automatic systems. Attention has also been given to the development of wireless telegraphy and telephony, particularly in receiving systems.

NEW LEGISLATION.

Two new Acts were passed by Parliament during the year, viz., an Act respecting the Patent Act, the Copyright Act, the Trade Mark and Design Act, and the Timber Marking Act (9 and 10 George 5, Chap. 64), assented to July 7, 1919; and an Act respecting Patents of Invention (10 George 5, Chap. 26), assented to November 10, 1919.

The first of these Acts provided for the administration of the office under a Commissioner of Patents with the rank and powers of a deputy head, directly responsible to the minister of the department under which the office is placed. The Act also made a number of minor amendments necessary to carry out such administration.

The second Act superseded the Orders and Regulations of the War Measures Act and gave the Commissioner of Patents similar powers until the regulations respecting industrial property under the Treaty of Peace became effective.

A new Patent Bill was introduced into the House of Commons and received the first reading. The new Copyright Bill which had been reported upon by the Senate the previous year was also introduced into the House and read a first time. No further progress had been made with either Bill when Parliament prorogued.

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. F. O'HALLORAN,

Commissioner of Patents.

APPENDICES.

APPENDIX A.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE PATENT AND-COPYRIGHT OFFICE FROM APRIL 1, 1919, TO MARCH 31, 1920.

(a) Transactions of the Patent Branch:

Applications for Patents..	11,198
Patents granted:—	
Fee paid for 6 years on issue..	9,473
“ 12 “ 	3
“ 18 “ 	35
Re-issues:—	
For 6 years..	15
“ 12 “	1
Total..	9,527
Certificates for renewal fees after issue:—	
For 6 years..	1,965
“ 12 “	71
Total..	2,036
Reports by Examiners in addition to patents granted..	5,348
Assignments of Patents..	4,479
Caveats:—	
Applications..	454
Grants..	408
Notices under Section 8..	430
Patents placed under section 44, (compulsory license clause)..	2,378

(b) Transactions of the Copyright and Tradé Mark Branch:

I. Copyrights—	
Full Copyrights without certificates..	1,685
“ with “ 	179
Temporary Copyrights without certificates..	33
“ with “ 	5
Interim Copyrights without certificates..	107
“ with “ 	17
Renewal of Copyrights..	2
Assignments of Copyrights..	32
Total..	2,060
II. Trade Marks..	1,735
Renewals of Specific Trade Marks..	104
Assignments of Trade Marks..	237
Total..	2,076
III. Industrial Designs..	186
Renewals of Industrial Designs..	31
Assignments of Industrial Designs..	44
Total..	261
IV. Timber Marks..	22
Assignments of Timber Marks..	7
Total..	29
Total Registrations..	4,426

APPENDIX B.
COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the transactions of the Patent and Copyright Office from 1911 to 1920 inclusive.

(a) Comparative Statement of the Patent Branch:

	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920
Applications for Patents.....	8037	8293	8681	8359	7302	7793	8751	8683	9025	11198
Patents granted.....	7249	7399	7502	7918	6867	6812	7520	7233	6052	9527
Certificates for renewal fees.....	1002	1113	1199	1323	1211	1419	1599	1847	2022	2036
Caveats.....	406	348	353	354	391	419	358	364	349	408
Assignments.....	3256	3725	3741	3432	3391	3311	3661	3425	3690	4479
Fees received, net.....	\$200,164 41	\$207,762 77	\$218,125 02	\$215,001 71	\$190,028, 37	\$202,630 40	\$227,094 09	\$228,278 57	\$239,345 38	\$294,046 28

(b) Comparative Statement of the Copyright and Trade Mark Branch:

Registrations.	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920
Copyrights Registered.....	1699	1593	1760	1835	1675	1477	1384	1440	1436	2028
Certificates of Copyright.....	206	213	205	207	193	146	160	128	142	201
Trade Marks Registered.....	1021	1212	1315	1378	1106	1019	840	987	919	1735
Industrial Designs Registered.....	118	149	228	165	224	215	196	177	169	186
Timber Marks Registered.....	39	39	15	57	24	27	55	31	90	22
Assignments Registered.....	386	230	559	264	242	279	333	234	255	320
Fees received, net.....	.....	.....	\$43,061 56	\$41,251 98	\$32,840 87	\$29,645 11	\$28,642 81	\$32,265 28	\$40,178 82	\$60,450 69

11 GEORGE V, A, 1921

APPENDIX C.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR 1919-1920.

Receipts.		Expenditure.	
	\$ c.		\$ c.
Cash received.....	374,408 17	Salaries.....	104,475 30
Cash refunded.....	19,911,20	Patent Record.....	44,079 92
		Contingencies.....	22,031 95
			170,587 17
		Receipts over Expenditure.....	183,909 80
Net Cash.....	354,496 97		354,496 97

APPENDIX D.

DETAILED STATEMENT PATENT OFFICE FEES FOR YEAR 1919-1920.

Month.	Notices	Patents.	Assign-ments.	Certified Copies.	Caveats.	Sun-dries.	Subscrip-tions.	Total.
1919.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.
April.....	110 10	23,836 53	782 25	256 40	235 25	42 00	37 50	25,300 03
May.....	118 00	23,145 15	951 35	319 30	195 00	19 84	23 55	24,772 19
June.....	42 00	22,607 70	777 90	260 30	130 00	72 79	103 75	23,994 44
July.....	69 00	21,600 50	973 55	276 55	195 25	15 00	51 20	23,181 05
August.....	114 00	20,495 35	660 50	237 48	155 00	13 25	26 90	21,702 48
September.....	74 00	21,456 21	851 10	360 90	160 00	19 25	40 90	22,962 36
October.....	62 00	23,683 06	978 75	479 30	159 87	46 25	27 70	25,436 93
November.....	56 60	22,294 02	831 95	407 30	165 00	18 00	22 50	23,795 37
December.....	48 00	24,859 60	915 58	386 80	200 15	40 00	139 20	26,589 33
1920.								
January.....	71 20	24,267 11	908 20	500 42	200 50	190 00	256 15	26,393 58
February.....	51 00	23,108 35	1,921 55	464 42	210 00	6 65	642 75	26,404 72
March.....	76 00	26,760 57	1,138 60	590 60	275 00	22 50	130 57	28,993 84
Totals.....	891 90	278,114 15	11,691 28	4,539 77	2,281 02	505 53	1,502 67	299,526 32
Refunds.....	31 50	4,523 95	147 60	239 66	55 50	475 63	6 20	5,480 04
Totals.....	860 40	273,590 20	11,543 68	4,300 11	2,225 52	29 90	1,496 47	294,046 28

APPENDIX E.

DETAILED STATEMENT TRADE MARK AND COPYRIGHT FEES FOR 1919-1920.

Month.	Trade Marks.	Copy- rights.	Designs.	Timber Marks.	Assign- ments.	Certified Copies.	Totals.
1919.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.
April.....	5,133 15	177 65	117 00	.....	53 00	40 25	6,521 05
May.....	6,132 70	167 00	123 25	2 00	55 50	19 50	6,499 95
June.....	4,984 25	174 50	105 50	4 00	45 00	19 25	5,332 50
July.....	5,434 43	185 80	75 00	4 00	69 00	19 25	5,787 48
August.....	5,163 63	181 08	195 00	.....	41 00	39 25	5,619 96
September.....	5,386 02	160 13	145 00	4 50	37 50	27 00	5,760 15
October.....	6,155 45	227 76	92 00	.....	42 50	37 00	6,554 71
November.....	5,886 45	201 00	120 00	4 00	39 00	82 75	6,333 20
December.....	5,855 75	223 15	120 00	38 10	60 00	26 50	6,323 50
1920.							
January.....	5,793 03	199 75	162 50	4 00	29 45	41 10	6,229 83
February.....	4,575 25	121 00	73 00	8 00	62 00	73 25	4,912 50
March.....	8,458 37	220 50	145 15	20 00	61 00	102 00	9,007 02
Totals.....	69,958 48	2,239 32	1,473 40	88 60	594 95	527 10	74,881 85
Refunds.....	14,311 01	38 50	61 25	.....	11 15	9 25	14,431 16
Totals.....	55,647 47	2,200 82	1,412 15	88 60	583 80	517 85	60,450 69

APPENDIX F.

RESIDENCE OF INVENTORS FOR PATENTS GRANTED IN 1919-1920.

Canada—		Brazil..	1
Ontario..	636	Porto Rico..	1
Quebec..	312	Philippine Islands..	1
British Columbia..	147	Ecuador..	1
Alberta..	116	Venezuela..	1
Saskatchewan..	94	Total..	6,884
Manitoba..	86	Europe—	
Nova Scotia..	29	Sweden..	104
New Brunswick..	22	France..	85
Prince Edward Island..	9	Norway..	50
Total..	1,451	Italy..	22
Great Britain and Ireland	678	Switzerland..	22
British Colonies and Possessions—		Denmark..	19
Australia..	92	Holland..	18
New Zealand..	48	Belgium..	7
Transvaal..	7	Finland..	2
Newfoundland..	5	*Germany..	2
India..	2	Spain..	1
Total..	154	Total..	332
Foreign States—		Asia—	
America—		Japan..	25
United States..	6,861	China..	2
Cuba..	5	Dutch East Indies..	1
Argentine Republic..	5	Total..	28
Mexico..	4	Grand total..	9,527
Peru..	2		
Chili..	2		

*The patents credited to Germany are those in which the inventors while residents of Germany had assigned all their interest in said patents previous to August 4, 1914, to assignees who were not alien enemies.

